PTO/SB/21 (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

| TRANSMITTAL FORM | | | | 0 | Application Number | | 09/941,154 | | |
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| | | | | | Filing Date | | 08/27/01 | | |
| (to be used for all correspondence after initial f | | | nitial filing) | | First Named Inver | ntor | Bianchi, John R. et al. | | |
| | | | | | Group Art Unit | | 1615 | | |
| • • | | | | | Examiner Name | Examiner Name | | | |
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| | envelope addresse | | | | sited with the Unit Patents, P.O. Box 1 | | | | |
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In the Application of: |) CERTIFICATE OF MAILING | | | | | |
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| Bianchi, John R., et al. | 1 hereby certify that this paper (and all papers referred to herein) is being deposited with the | | | | | |
| Serial No.: 09/941,154 | United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: | | | | | |
| Filed: August 27, 2001 | Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313=1450 on: | | | | | |
| | j. | | | | | |
| For: "Assembled Implant" | September 8, 2003 | | | | | |
| Group Art Unit: 1615 | 3 Onald Sommer | | | | | |
| | Donald J. Pochopien | | | | | |
| |) Registration No. 32,167) Attorney for Applicants | | | | | |
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| PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT | | | | | | |
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| Commissioner for Patents | 8 0 | | | | | |

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

At the top of page 1 of the specification, please delete the paragraph between lines 6 and 11, which recites the claim of priority, and insert in its place the substitute paragraph provided herein.